



## Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle Safety

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### NEW TEEN DRIVING REQUIREMENTS PUBLISHED

The Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle Safety (DMVS) released today the Parental Guide to New Teenage Driving Requirements, which explains the new teenage driving rules and regulations that will be effective January 1, 2002. The brochure is a response to the Teen Driving Safety Law that was approved by the General Assembly during the 2001 Session and signed by the Governor.

This easy-to-read pamphlet outlines how the new teenage driving requirements will affect both teen drivers and their parents. Before a teenager can apply for their permanent driver's license and obtain all the privileges that go with it, they must now have 40 hours of supervised experience – with six of those hours being at night. If the student has participated and successfully passed a driver education course, it requires 20 hours of supervised driving time – with six of those hours being at night. This must be certified by a parent, legal guardian or responsible adult.

The brochure provides all the guidelines and requirements, a suggested driving skills checklist, and an optional driving log. But most importantly, it contains a sample of the Verification Form, which will be completed by the teen's parent at the DMVS Customer Service Center. The parent or designated adult is required to affirm that the applicant has completed the behind-the-wheel experience and will be held liable for any fictitious representation. "The primary focus of this brochure is to reach the parent and inform them of the new responsibilities they face as they allow their teen to gain that first driver's license," said DMVS Commissioner Tim Burgess.

The main goal of Senate Bill 1, the Teen Driving Safety Law, is to reduce crashes, serious injuries and traffic-related deaths involving teen drivers and their passengers. With these new teen driving requirements, young drivers gain the knowledge, skill and experience needed to develop safe driving habits before they gain their first license.

The brochures will be available at no cost at all DMVS Customer Service Centers and will be distributed to high school educators. A copy can also be obtained from the Department's website, [www.dmv.ga.gov](http://www.dmv.ga.gov). For more information, contact the Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle Safety at (678) 413-8400.